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## Newsletter - 1992-07-30

E. De la Garza

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# NEWSLETTER

102-1373

30 July 1992

Washington, D C

**THE ARTS LINK** - This year, the John F Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, is again offering an opportunity for performing arts centers and schools to be partners in education. The Kennedy Center's four-day institute is designed to promote school/community partnerships in the performing arts with a special focus on the education of teachers.

At the institute, teams examine the variety of professional development opportunities for teachers developed at the Kennedy Center over the past 16 years. Then, each team develops a plan that specifies how the partners will work together during the next year to establish professional development opportunities for teachers in their communities. Participants also get the opportunity to attend performances at the Center, meet with Congressional representatives and guest artists, and receive a detailed planning guide.

The institute, "PERFORMING ARTS CENTERS AND SCHOOLS: PARTNERS IN EDUCATION," will be held at the Kennedy Center, May 5-9, 1993. I mention this opportunity for two reasons. First, it has always been my belief that the arts contribute to improved academic performance and provide a critical means to link community and school interests, and second, because Texas has not been represented at this event in the past.

Performing arts centers and performing arts presenters who are interested in initiating or expanding education programs for teachers, may apply. Up to 14, two-person teams, consisting of a representative from the performing arts center, and from its school system(s), are then selected for participation in the institute. Participants are selected from urban, suburban, and rural regions.

The deadline to apply is October 30, 1992 -- and for information, please contact my Washington office.

# # # #

**HOME BUYING TIPS** - In an effort to increase homeownership of Hispanics across the United States, the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) has released two consumer brochures translated into Spanish.

(more)

Unraveling the Mortgage Loan Mystery is the first nationally available Spanish-language brochure that tells consumers what to expect from the time of a home mortgage application until after a home loan closes. It helps home buyers understand the different types of mortgages available, how large a loan for which they may qualify, and how to apply for a loan.

Knowing how to apply, and finding an affordable loan have traditionally been the largest obstacles in buying a home and these brochures are intended to help home buyers overcome these two hurdles. The other brochure, Community Home Buyer's Program, explains Fannie Mae's reduced down payment mortgage program for lower income home buyers.

Consumers may obtain a free copy of each of the brochures, in English or Spanish, along with a list of local mortgage lenders who offer the Community Home Buyer's Program. For more information or a copy of the brochure, please contact my Washington office.

# # # #

**VISION RULE RELAXED** - Persons with perfect vision in only one eye who have demonstrated their ability to operate commercial vehicles safely, may now obtain waivers from federal vision requirements for interstate operations. The Federal Highway Administration has issued a rule that allows experienced drivers to apply for waivers from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations -- an action consistent with the national policy most recently stated in the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Under the new waiver program, the level of safety will remain unchanged, in that drivers eligible for waivers must have driving records that not only equal those of other drivers, but surpass them. Applications for waivers will be accepted until September 21, 1992.

# # # #

**VISITORS FROM HOME** - Ignacio Salinas, Jr, of San Diego; Jimmy and Nancy Anderson of Ingleside; Sonia Silva, Leticia Ann Jasso, and Dolores and Rogelio Casanova of Weslaco; Arturo, Yolanda, Lori, Art, and Vanessa Ramoz of Mercedes; Kevin Hunt of Karnes City; Annabel Garza and Cindy Escobar of Ben Bolt; Jack and Hilda Edwards, Babil Gandara, and Joel Ortega of McAllen; Robert C Brandt of Mission; Jerry, Angela, Jason, and Chris Brackhahn of Raymondville; Dr and Mrs Andres Elizondo of Alice; and Karen Chapman of Brownsville.

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